

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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NESCO

PASS DHEW/USOE: COTNER; AND USICA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG OCON UNESCO
SUBJ: INTERIM INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR PHYSICAL
EDUCATION AND SPORTS - SECOND SESSION, MAY 23, 1978

1. COMMITTEE TOOK UP ITEM 4 (INTERNATIONAL SPORTS
COMPETITION) AT REQUEST OF FRG AND UK DELEGATIONS
BECAUSE PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY GERHARD BAUM AND
MINISTER FOR SPORT DENIS HOWELL COULD BE HERE TODAY AND
WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM. THEIR
PARTICIPATION REFLECTS GENERAL RECOGNITION THAT THIS
ITEM REMAINS POLITICALLY MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE. AT
PRE-MEETING WEST EUROPEAN CAUCUS (INCLUDING JAPAN),
EUROPEANS GAVE US DECLARATION PRODUCED BY RECENT
MEETING OF SPORTS MINISTERS WHICH STRONGLY ENDORSES
INDEPENDENCE OF IOC AND INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS.
HOWELL ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN TO HAVE PROBLEM RESOLVED
BEFORE 1980 AFTER WHICH HE FEARED USSR MIGHT FEEL FREE
TO BECOME MISCHIEVOUS.

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2. COMMITTEE MEETING LED OFF BY BAUM AND HOWELL WHO BOTH
WELCOMED DG M'BOW'S OPENING REMARKS YESTERDAY IN WHICH
HE STATED UNESCO HAS NO INTEREST IN CONTROLLING
INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITION. BOTH ALSO EMPHASIZED
NEED TO MAINTAIN INDEPENDENCE OF NGO'S. THEY POINTED TO
IOC TRIPARTITE DECLARATION AND SUGGESTED QUESTIONNAIRE

INDICATED NEED FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN UNESCO AND IOC, AND THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTING BODIES.

3. ENSUING DISCUSSION PROCEEDED SURPRISINGLY CORDIALLY WITH MANY DELEGATIONS (INCLUDING SUCH COUNTRIES AS LIBYA, YUGOSLAVIA) EXPLICITLY SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE OF INTERNATIONAL SPORTING BODIES, AND WITH A CLEAR CONSENSUS DEVELOPING IN FAVOR OF ASKING DG (1) TO REQUEST COUNTRIES THAT HAD NOT ANSWERED QUESTIONNAIRE TO PROVIDE REPLIES (ONLY 42 COUNTRIES AND 11 NGO'S HAVE SENT REPLIES); (2) TO PREPARE REPORT BASED ON ALL REPLIES TO PERMANENT COMMITTEE (TO BE ESTABLISHED BY 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE); AND (3) TO PURSUE HIS DIALOGUE WITH IOC AND INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS. THERE WAS EXPLICIT RECOGNITION THAT IOC AND INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS HAD REACTED STRONGLY TO UNESCO'S NEW ACTIVITY IN SPORTS AND THAT ATMOSPHERE OF CONFRONTATION HAD DEVELOPED. THERE WERE HOWEVER EQUALLY EXPLICIT EXPRESSIONS OF DESIRE TO AVOID ACTUAL CONFRONTATION AND IN FACT TO DEVELOP COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNESCO AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES.

4. CHIEF USDEL CHAPMAN NOTED WITH SATISFACTION GENERAL ATTITUDESUPPORTING MAINTENANCE OF INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF NGO'S AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT UNESCO HAD IMPORTANT TASK OF WORKING ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND SPORTS IN CONTEXT OF EDUCATION, WHICH WAS UNESCO'S PROPER ROLE, BUT RECOGNIZED THAT THERE WAS A CONTINUUM BETWEEN PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS WHICH COULD BEST BE BRIDGED BY PROPOSED DIALOGUE BETWEEN DG AND IOC AND INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS.

5. AGENDA ITEM 6 (UNESCO PROGRESS REPORT ON PROGRAM 1977-78). SECRETARIAT FOLLOWED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FIRST SESSION OF INTERIM COMMITTEE IN DESCRIBING A PROGRAM OF ACTION AND SUBMITTED A PROJECTED BUDGET AS PART OF THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR PRESENTATION TO THE NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE (20C5). PROPOSAL ENVISAGED INCREASING BUDGET FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS FROM \$163,200 (1977-1978) TO \$445,000 (1979-1980). THE UNITED KINGDOM STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO SELECT PROJECTS OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY AND INDICATED THAT, IN THEIR VIEW, TRAINING OF SPECIALISTS WAS MOST IMPORTANT FIELD. HE ALSO URGED AVOIDING SPREADING RESOURCES TOO THINLY ON A WIDE VARIETY OF PROJECTS. NIGERIA COMMENTED POSITIVELY ON PROGRESS BUT MADE A STRONG PLEA FOR TRAINING OF PERSONNEL. THE US DELEGATION STRONGLY SUPPORTED NIGERIAN AND UK POSITION ON

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NESCO

ESTABLISHING STRICT PRIORITIES AND DEVELOPING HUMAN
RESOURCES AS TOP PRIORITY. FRG, USSR, GDR OFFERED
DIRECT HELP AND ASSISTANCE TO UNESCO STATES IN
IMPLEMENTING PROGRAM IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT.
CUBA MADE VIGOROUS INTERVENTION IN FAVOR OF MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS. SECRETARIAT (FOECKE)
RESPONDED BY REPEATING THAT ITS BUDGET PROGRAM WAS A
REFLECTION OF THE COMMITTEE'S FIRST SESSION WHICH INDEED
HAD PRODUCED A WIDE VARIETY OF PROPOSALS. HE SAID
THE STUDIES REFERRED TO IN DOCUMENT WERE BEING UNDER-
TAKEN IN OTHER UNESCO PROGRAMS AND SECRETARIAT WAS
SEEKING TO COORDINATE THESE STUDIES WITH PHYSICAL
EDUCATION AND SPORTS. FINALLY, HE ANSWERED UK'S
QUESTION AFFIRMATIVELY REGARDING WHETHER UNESCO WAS
ESTABLISHING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FIELDS OF PHYSICAL
EDUCATION AND SPORTS AND THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL
PLANNING INSTITUTE. RE US REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF
PROFESSIONAL STUDY DONE BY AMERICAN EXPERT DR. HAROLD
CORDTS UNDER UNESCO CONTRACT: "NATIONAL POLICIES AND
PRACTICES CONCERNING THE ROLE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
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AND SPORT IN THE EDUCATION OF YOUTH", FOECKE INDICATED
THEY WERE LOOKING FOR FUNDS TO TRANSLATE AND PUBLISH IT.
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